

through on their commitments, regretably. The Indonesian government, I fear, has not.

The Indonesian government, in no uncertain terms, has the responsibility to curb the violence now and work to create a peaceful atmosphere so that the results of the ballot can be implemented. It must also protect the humanitarian missions that remain in East Timor and secure the safe passage of humanitarian aid to the region. No reasonable justification exists for the Indonesian military cutting off the water supply and electricity inside the U.N. Compound. That only leaves us with the question, who is really calling the shots?

Indeed, the history of the Indonesian military is far too bleak to have given it free reign to operate under martial law. We have already seen evidence of the military directly firing on civilians, forcibly removing them from their homes, or just turning a blind eye to the havoc being unleashed on them by the paramilitary forces. I do not believe that martial law—which establishes curfews, enables the military to shoot violators of the curfews on sight, and provides for unwarranted searches—is the step that the Indonesian government should have taken if it wanted to stop the violence and reestablish credibility for itself in the international community. Martial law has only succeeded in unleashing more violence and greater terror. It is especially problematic since many members of the Indonesian military remain inextricably linked to the militia forces or have joined radical military splinter groups.

I do not believe that the Indonesian government has taken adequate steps, if any at all, to disassociate itself from the civilian militias and to dismantle and disarm them when it became apparent that these groups would not work to bring peace to the region. The human rights abuses they have committed over the years was only a prologue to the devastation they are orchestrating today. The alarm bells were ringing months ago, but was anyone listening?

The Indonesian military's direct involvement in committing human rights abuses and perpetuating violence in Indonesia led me to support a restriction on U.S. arms sales and International Military Education Training (IMET) aid to Indonesia, which Congress initiated in 1993. I believe it is crucial to suspend all of the remaining U.S. military contacts with the Indonesian armed forces and all arms sales to Indonesia.

The outcome of this crisis will have implications not only for East Timor but for Indonesia as a whole. We need to be responsive to the crisis in East Timor, but we must carefully consider the implications of any action on the larger political, economic and social climate in Indonesia.

I believe it is vital for the Indonesian government to accept the international

community's offer to send an international peacekeeping force to East Timor and that force must be robust, with the capacity to restore law and order on the ground. The U.S. must continue to work with its allies in the region in order to urge the Indonesian government to invite this force in. I am pleased that the Australian government has taken the lead in this effort by offering up to 7,000 peacekeepers to operate in such a force and has sent war ships to the waters off East Timor as a message to the Indonesian government that the global community is serious.

The East Timor crisis will be, and indeed should be, the top priority for discussion at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Forum this weekend. There is no issue of greater importance to the region at the moment. I believe that the U.S. must play a strong role in coordinating the efforts of all APEC nations in order to formulate a strong, multilateral response to the crisis. All members of APEC have a direct interest in preventing the further escalation of violence and political instability.

I urge the Administration to continue to work aggressively with APEC nations to make it clear to the Indonesian government that the clock is ticking on a resolution of this issue. In addition to the diplomatic efforts, we must take some steps to demonstrate our own disapproval of the government's response to the situation to date. I support the Administration's decision to cease our direct military-to-military contacts with Indonesia. I believe we also should offer to send humanitarian aid to both East Timor and governments in the region that accept refugees. There are other steps that we can take as well.

That is why I have joined my colleague Senator RUSS FEINGOLD in introducing a bill to suspend international financial assistance to Indonesia pending resolution of the crisis in East Timor. Specifically, this bill would suspend the remaining U.S. military assistance to Indonesia, require the United States to oppose the extension of financial support to Indonesia by international financial institutions such as the IMF, and require Congressional approval before any FY 2000 bilateral assistance to Indonesia may be allocated. I see the introduction of this bill as a way to send a signal—not only to President Habibie, but to all of the players in Jakarta—that we regard this issue very seriously.

Mr. President, I appreciate the opportunity to talk about East Timor and I yield the remainder of my time.●

MR. AND MRS. PETER AND PAT COOK PROCLAMATION

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, It gives me great pleasure to rise today and honor two outstanding Republican visionaries and admired civic leaders, Mr. and Mrs. Peter and Pat Cook, on

the occasion of the Gerald R. Ford Republican Women's Club, Annual Fall Reception on September 13, 1999.

Peter Cook began his professional career with Import Motors Limited Inc., where he was named President in 1954. In 1977, with his typical entrepreneurial spirit and innovative thinking, Peter Cook formed Transitional Motors Inc., also known as Mazda Great Lakes, where he currently sits as chairman of the board and majority stockholder. Additionally, Mr. Cook serves on the boards for numerous companies, most notably, Gospel Communications, Woodland International, Applied Image Technology and the new Van Andel Institute. In the past he served as chairman of the South Y.M.C.A. and the Kent County Republican Finance Committee.

Pat Cook has always been very supportive of her husband's career. In the late 1950's she took it upon herself to help deliver some of the first Volkswagens to dealers in Midland and Detroit. After the birth of their two children, Tom and Steve, Mrs. Cook stayed at home and continued in a voluntary capacity to enrich her community. She has served on the boards of Welcome Home for the Blind, Blodgett Hospital Guild and Porter Hills Ladies Auxiliary.

Perhaps what is most truly admirable and wonderful about Mr. and Mrs. Cook is their dedication to helping the lives of others and the Grand Rapids community. They made the leading gift establishing the Research and Education Institute of Butterworth Hospital. Mr. and Mrs. Cook are active members of the Grace Reformed Church and much of their support is focused toward youth and Christian institutions. They have helped make possible the construction of the carillon on the Grand Valley State University campus; they have worked with Aquinas College students in making a new Student Center; and they have also contributed greatly to the Hope College Student Housing Center and Cook Valley Estates for the Porter Hills Presbyterian Village.

Mr. and Mrs. Cook lead their lives as an example to others by being strong Christians, distinguished philanthropists, and dedicated citizens. Their countless efforts and support will continue to benefit the community for many years to come.

Mr. President it is with sincere joy and appreciation that I honor Peter and Pat Cook. Rarely do you see two people who have unselfishly done so much to help others.●

ARMOR PIERCING AMMUNITION

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, two of my colleagues in the House of Representatives, Representative BLAGOJEVICH and Representative WAXMAN, asked the Office of Special Investigations within the General Accounting Office (GAO) to investigate the manufacture and distribution of fifty caliber armor piercing ammunition, some of the most